

MONTANA LEGISLATIVE HISTORY

Chapter 372 19 95

Bill H 356 S _____ Original bill & history C

H. Committee on Judiciary

Hearing Date(s) Feb 13 ☒ C

Feb 15 ☒ C

_____ ☐ C

_____ ☐ C

Date Out Feb 15 ☒ C

S. Committee on Judiciary

Hearing Date(s) Mar 14 ☒ C

_____ ☐ C

_____ ☐ C

_____ ☐ C

Mar 14 ☒ C

Did this bill originate in an interim committee? Yes No

Committee _____

Report _____

2/15	2ND READING PASSED	94	1
2/16	3RD READING PASSED	99	1
	TRANSMITTED TO SENATE		
2/21	FIRST READING		
2/21	REFERRED TO JUDICIARY		
3/10	HEARING		
3/11	COMMITTEE REPORT—BILL CONCURRED		
3/17	2ND READING CONCURRED	47	0
3/18	3RD READING CONCURRED	46	0
	RETURNED TO HOUSE		
3/20	SIGNED BY SPEAKER		
3/22	SIGNED BY PRESIDENT		
3/23	TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR		
3/27	SIGNED BY GOVERNOR		
	CHAPTER NUMBER 247		
	EFFECTIVE DATE: 10/01/95		

HB 356 INTRODUCED BY BOHARSKI, ET AL.

IMPLEMENT TRUTH IN SENTENCING BY MAKING TIME A PRISONER WILL
ACTUALLY SERVE MORE APPARENT

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND HUMAN
SERVICES

1/27	INTRODUCED		
1/27	FIRST READING		
1/27	REFERRED TO JUDICIARY		
1/28	FISCAL NOTE REQUESTED		
2/02	FISCAL NOTE RECEIVED		
2/02	FISCAL NOTE PRINTED		
2/13	HEARING		
2/16	COMMITTEE REPORT—BILL PASSED AS AMENDED		
2/18	2ND READING PASSED	96	2
2/20	3RD READING PASSED	96	4
	TRANSMITTED TO SENATE		
2/21	FIRST READING		
2/21	REFERRED TO JUDICIARY		
3/14	HEARING		
3/15	COMMITTEE REPORT—BILL CONCURRED		
3/24	2ND READING CONCURRED AS AMENDED	39	10
3/25	3RD READING CONCURRED	40	10
	RETURNED TO HOUSE WITH AMENDMENTS		
3/31	2ND READING AMENDMENTS CONCURRED	94	1
4/03	3RD READING AMENDMENTS CONCURRED	98	0
4/05	SIGNED BY SPEAKER		
4/06	SIGNED BY PRESIDENT		
4/07	TRANSMITTED TO GOVERNOR		
4/12	SIGNED BY GOVERNOR		
	CHAPTER NUMBER 372		
	EFFECTIVE DATE: 04/12/95—SECTIONS 1, 2, 4-6, 8-11, 12(1) & 13		
	EFFECTIVE DATE: 01/31/97—SECTIONS 3, 7, & 12(2)		

HB 357 INTRODUCED BY BOHARSKI, ET AL.

CREATE A COMMISSION ON SENTENCING TO STUDY SENTENCING
PRACTICES AND GUIDELINES AND EFFECTS OF SENTENCES

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND HUMAN
SERVICES

1/27 INTRODUCED

INTRODUCED BY

House BILL NO. 356

BY REQUEST OF THE DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS AND HUMAN SERVICES

A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT IMPLEMENTING TRUTH IN SENTENCING BY MAKING THE TIME
A PRISONER WILL ACTUALLY SERVE MORE APPARENT; CHANGING GOOD TIME, PAROLE, AND
CONSECUTIVE SENTENCE PROVISIONS; ABOLISHING GOOD TIME AS OF FEBRUARY 1, 1997;
ABOLISHING THE DESIGNATION OF CRIMINALS AS DANGEROUS OR NONDANGEROUS FOR PURPOSES
OF PAROLE; AMENDING SECTIONS 44-2-601, 46-18-401, 46-18-402, 46-23-201, 46-23-202, 46-23-216,
46-23-217, 46-23-426, 53-30-105, AND 53-30-132, MCA; REPEALING SECTIONS 46-18-404 AND
53-30-105, MCA; AND PROVIDING EFFECTIVE DATES."

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

Section 1. Section 44-2-601, MCA, is amended to read:

"44-2-601. Notification of escape or release from confinement. (1) The notice required by
subsection (2) must be given if:

(a) a person committed to a hospital or mental health facility under Title 46, chapter 14, escapes
or is released from confinement;

(b) a person confined in an institution other than a jail pending or during trial for a criminal offense
involving the use or threat of physical force or violence or confined in a prison or other state institution after
conviction of a criminal offense involving the use or threat of physical force or violence ~~or after being~~
~~designated as a dangerous offender under 46-18-404~~ escapes or is released from confinement; or

(c) a person confined in a jail pending or during trial for a criminal offense involving the use or
threat of physical force or violence or confined in a jail after conviction of a criminal offense involving the
use or threat of physical force or violence ~~or after being designated as a dangerous offender under~~
~~46-18-404~~ escapes from confinement.

(2) If a person referred to in subsection (1) escapes or is released from confinement, the institution
in which the person was confined shall notify:

(a) the sheriff or other law enforcement officials in the county in which the offense occurred;

1 (b) the sheriff or other law enforcement officials in the county or counties, if known, in which a
2 victim or the victims of the offense reside at the time of the escape or release;

3 (c) the sheriff or other law enforcement officials in the county, if known, in which the person
4 intends to reside upon leaving confinement;

5 (d) the sheriff or other law enforcement officials in the county in which the jail, prison, hospital,
6 mental health facility, or other institution from which the person escaped or was released is located; and

7 (e) a court that has requested that it be notified in the event of a release or an escape of the
8 person."

9
10 **Section 2.** Section 46-18-401, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"46-18-401. Consecutive sentences.** (1) Unless the judge otherwise orders:

12 (a) whenever a person serving a term of commitment imposed by a court in this state is committed
13 for another offense, the shorter term or shorter remaining term may not be merged in the other term; and

14 (b) whenever a person under suspended sentence or on probation for an offense committed in this
15 state is sentenced for another offense, the period still to be served on suspended sentence or probation
16 may not be merged in any new sentence of commitment or probation.

17 (2) The court, whether or not it merges the sentences, shall immediately furnish each of the other
18 courts and the penal institutions in which the defendant is confined under sentence with authenticated
19 copies of its sentence, which must cite any sentence that is merged.

20 (3) If an unexpired sentence is merged pursuant to subsection (1), the court ~~which~~ that imposed
21 ~~such~~ the sentence shall modify it in accordance with the effect of the merger.

22 (4) Separate sentences for two or more offenses must run consecutively unless the court otherwise
23 orders.

24 ~~(5) Except as provided in this subsection, whenever a prisoner is sentenced for an offense~~
25 ~~committed while he was imprisoned in the state prison or while he was released on parole or under the~~
26 ~~supervised release program, the new sentence runs consecutively with the remainder of the original~~
27 ~~sentence. The prisoner starts serving the new sentence when the original sentence has expired or when~~
28 ~~he is released on parole under chapter 23, part 2, of this title in regard to the original sentence, whichever~~
29 ~~is sooner. In the latter case, the sentences run concurrently from the time of his release on parole."~~
30

1 **Section 3.** Section 46-18-402, MCA, is amended to read:

2 **"46-18-402. Credit for time served.** ~~Where~~ If a defendant has served any portion of ~~his~~ the
3 defendant's sentence under a commitment based upon a judgment ~~which that~~ is subsequently declared
4 invalid or ~~which that~~ is modified during the term of imprisonment, ~~such the~~ time ~~shall served~~ must be
5 credited ~~upon~~ against any subsequent sentence ~~he may receive~~ received upon a new commitment for the
6 same criminal act or acts. ~~In calculating the time imprisoned, the person so convicted shall have the credit~~
7 ~~for all the time earned in diminution of sentence as provided under 53-30-105, unless the sentencing~~
8 ~~authority, in its discretion, may choose to deny such credit."~~

9
10 **Section 4.** Section 46-23-201, MCA, is amended to read:

11 **"46-23-201. Prisoners eligible for nonmedical parole.** (1) Subject to the restrictions contained in
12 subsections (2) through ~~(5)~~ (4), the board may release on nonmedical parole by appropriate order any
13 person confined in the Montana state prison or the women's correctional center, except persons under
14 sentence of death and persons serving sentences imposed under 46-18-202(2), when in its opinion there
15 is reasonable probability that the prisoner can be released without detriment to the prisoner or to the
16 community.

17 (2) A prisoner serving a time sentence may not be paroled under this section until the prisoner has
18 served at least ~~one-half~~ one-fourth of the prisoner's full term, ~~less the good time allowance provided for~~
19 ~~in 53-30-105. Except as provided in subsection (3), a prisoner designated as a nondangerous offender~~
20 ~~under 46-18-404 may be paroled after the prisoner has served one-quarter of the prisoner's full term, less~~
21 ~~the good time allowance provided for in 53-30-105. Any prisoner serving a time sentence may be paroled~~
22 ~~after the prisoner has served 17 1/2 years of the sentence.~~

23 ~~(3) A prisoner serving a time sentence under 45-9-109 may not be paroled until the prisoner has~~
24 ~~served at least one-half of the full term, less the good time allowance provided for in 53-30-105.~~

25 ~~(4)~~(3) A prisoner serving a life sentence may not be paroled under this section until the prisoner
26 has served 30 years, ~~less the good time allowance provided for in 53-30-105.~~

27 ~~(5)~~(4) A parole may be ordered under this section only for the best interests of society and not as
28 an award of clemency or a reduction of sentence or pardon. A prisoner may be placed on parole only when
29 the board believes that the prisoner is able and willing to fulfill the obligations of a law-abiding citizen.

30 ~~(6) Whenever the department of corrections and human services certifies to the board that the~~

1 ~~population at either the male or female correctional facility has exceeded its designed capacity for 30~~
2 ~~consecutive days, the board shall consider the respective male or female prisoners under the jurisdiction~~
3 ~~of the department eligible for parole 120 days prior to the eligibility dates provided for in subsections (2)~~
4 ~~through (4).~~

5 ~~(7) Regardless of length of sentence, if the conditions of parole eligibility are met within the initial~~
6 ~~12 months of incarceration, the provisions of subsection (6) do not apply."~~

7

8 **Section 5.** Section 46-23-202, MCA, is amended to read:

9 **"46-23-202. Investigation of prisoner by board.** (1) Within the 2 months prior to a prisoner's official
10 parole eligibility date ~~or within the 2 months following the date a prisoner becomes eligible pursuant to~~
11 ~~53-30-105(5),~~ the board shall consider all pertinent information regarding ~~each~~ the prisoner, including the
12 circumstances of the offense, the prisoner's previous social history and criminal record, the prisoner's
13 conduct, employment, and attitude in prison, and the reports of any physical and mental examinations that
14 have been made.

15 (2) Before ordering the parole of any prisoner, the board shall interview the prisoner."
16

16

17 **Section 6.** Section 46-23-216, MCA, is amended to read:

18 **"46-23-216. Duration of parole.** (1) A prisoner on parole ~~who has served one half of his term or~~
19 ~~terms, less the good time allowance, or a nondangerous offender on parole who has served one quarter~~
20 ~~of his term or terms, less the good time allowance,~~ is considered released on parole until the expiration of
21 the maximum term or terms for which ~~he~~ the prisoner was sentenced, less the good time allowance as
22 provided for in 53-30-105.

23 (2) The period served on parole or conditional release ~~shall be deemed~~ must be considered service
24 of the term of imprisonment, and subject to the provisions contained in 46-23-1023 through 46-23-1026
25 relating to a prisoner who is a fugitive from or has fled from justice, the total time served may not exceed
26 the maximum term or sentence. When a prisoner on parole or conditional release has performed the
27 obligations of ~~his~~ the release, the board shall make a final order or discharge and issue a certificate of
28 discharge to the prisoner."
29

29

30 **Section 7.** Section 46-23-216, MCA, is amended to read:

1 **"46-23-216. Duration of parole.** (1) A prisoner on parole ~~who has served one half of his term or~~
2 ~~terms, less the good time allowance, or a nondangerous offender on parole who has served one quarter~~
3 ~~of his term or terms, less the good time allowance,~~ is considered released on parole until the expiration of
4 the maximum term or terms for which he the prisoner was sentenced, ~~less the good time allowance as~~
5 ~~provided for in 53-30-105.~~

6 (2) The period served on parole or conditional release ~~shall be deemed~~ must be considered service
7 of the term of imprisonment, and subject to the provisions contained in 46-23-1023 through 46-23-1026
8 relating to a prisoner who is a fugitive from or has fled from justice, the total time served may not exceed
9 the maximum term or sentence. When a prisoner on parole or conditional release has performed the
10 obligations of ~~his~~ the release, the board shall make a final order or discharge and issue a certificate of
11 discharge to the prisoner."

12
13 **Section 8.** Section 46-23-217, MCA, is amended to read:

14 **"46-23-217. Service of term for additional crime.** A prisoner who commits a crime while imprisoned
15 in the state prison or while released on parole or under the supervised release program and who is
16 convicted and sentenced for the crime shall serve the sentence consecutively with the remainder of the
17 original sentence ~~as provided in 46-18-401.~~ However, the prisoner remains eligible for parole consideration
18 under 46-23-201 in regard to the original sentence. If paroled from the original sentence, the prisoner shall
19 begin serving the subsequent sentence ~~as provided in 46-18-401.~~"

20
21 **Section 9.** Section 46-23-426, MCA, is amended to read:

22 **"46-23-426. Escape.** A person convicted of escape from a supervised release program is
23 punishable as provided in 45-7-306. ~~A person convicted of such an escape and sentenced therefor shall~~
24 and must serve such the sentence for escape consecutively with the remainder of the original sentence ~~as~~
25 ~~provided in 46-18-401.~~"

26
27 **Section 10.** Section 53-30-105, MCA, is amended to read:

28 **"53-30-105. Good time allowance.** (1) The department of corrections and human services ~~shall~~
29 ~~adopt rules providing for the granting of~~ may grant a good time allowance ~~for to~~ inmates ~~employed in any~~
30 ~~prison work or activity and to implement subsection (5)~~ housed at an adult correctional facility or a

1 supervised release program facility. The good time allowance ~~shall~~ may operate as a credit on the inmate's
2 sentence as imposed by the court, conditioned upon the inmate's good behavior and compliance with the
3 rules ~~made~~ adopted by the department ~~or the warden~~. The ~~rules adopted by the department under this~~
4 ~~subsection~~ may not grant good time allowance to exceed:

5 ~~(a) 10 days per month for inmates assigned to maximum, close, and medium I security~~
6 ~~classifications;~~

7 ~~(b) 13 days per month for those classified as medium II and minimum security classifications;~~

8 ~~(c) 15 days per month for inmates after having been assigned as medium II or minimum security~~
9 ~~for an uninterrupted period of 1 year;~~

10 ~~(d) 13 days per month for those inmates enrolled in school who successfully complete the course~~
11 ~~of study or who while so enrolled are released from prison by discharge or parole;~~

12 ~~(e) 3 days per month for those inmates participating in self improvement activities designated by~~
13 ~~the department~~ 1 day for each day served at an adult correctional facility or a supervised release program
14 facility.

15 (2) In the event of an attempted escape by an inmate or a violation of the rules prescribed by the
16 department ~~or warden~~, the inmate may be punished by the forfeiture of part or all good time allowances.
17 ~~The warden of the state prison shall advise the department of any attempted escape or violation of rules~~
18 ~~on the part of the inmate. Any punishment by forfeiture of good time allowance must be approved by the~~
19 ~~department.~~

20 (3) A person may not earn good time under this section while the person is on probation. A person
21 may earn good time while on parole at the rate of ~~30 days per month~~ 1 day per day served on parole. If the
22 department determines that a person has violated the conditions of parole, it may, in its discretion, deduct
23 good time credit accumulated under this subsection in an amount up to and including all credit accumulated
24 on the date of the violation.

25 (4) ~~The warden of the state prison~~ department may ~~request that~~ restore all or portions of any
26 previously forfeited good time ~~be restored~~ as a result of subsequent good behavior. ~~Any restoration of good~~
27 ~~time allowance must be approved by the department.~~

28 (5) If the population at the Montana state prison or the Montana women's correctional center
29 exceeds the design capacity of the institution, the department may grant an inmate additional good time
30 credits in an amount necessary to permit the inmate to become eligible for parole or to discharge the

inmate's sentence. Good time credits for the discharge of a sentence may not exceed 180 days. The award of good time under this subsection must generally be provided to inmates who are nearest to parole eligibility or discharge."

Section 11. Section 53-30-132, MCA, is amended to read:

"53-30-132. Inmate participation and status -- prison industries training program -- wages and benefits. (1) ~~An inmate participating in the prison industries training program may be granted a good time allowance, not to exceed 15 days per month, notwithstanding the limits contained in 53-30-105, for outstanding participation in the program as defined by rules adopted by the department of corrections and human services. The good time allowance has the same effect as a good time allowance granted under 53-30-105, and the provisions of subsections (2) and (3) of 53-30-105 apply to the good time allowance. However, an inmate may not receive good time for participation in this program under any other section or rule that would duplicate the good time authorized in this section.~~

~~(2)~~ While engaged in on-the-job training and production, inmates not employed in a federally certified prison industries program may be paid a wage commensurate with their production function. Wages must be established at a rate that encourages efficient production and effective levels of inmate participation. Inmates employed in a federally certified prison industries program must be paid as provided in 53-1-301(2).

~~(3)~~(2) Inmates not working in a federally certified prison industries training program are not employees, either public or private, and employment rights accorded other classes of workers do not apply to the inmates. Inmates working in a federally certified prison industry program are entitled to coverage and benefits as provided in 39-71-744.

~~(4)~~(3) Able-bodied persons committed to the Montana state prison as adult offenders ~~shall~~ must be required to perform work as provided for by the department of corrections and human services."

NEW SECTION. Section 12. Repealer. (1) Section 46-18-404, MCA, is repealed.

(2) Section 53-30-105, MCA, is repealed.

NEW SECTION. Section 13. Effective dates. (1) [Sections 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 8 through 11, subsection (1) of section 12, and this section] are effective on passage and approval.

1 (2) [Sections 3 and 7 and subsection (2) of section 12] are effective January 31, 1997.

2 -END-

STATE OF MONTANA - FISCAL NOTE

Fiscal Note for HB0356, as introduced

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

Bill implementing truth in sentencing by making the time a prisoner will actually serve apparent.

ASSUMPTIONS:

This bill would set parole eligibility dates at a flat 25% of sentence for all inmates by eliminating the nondangerous and dangerous designation and essentially abolishing the minimum time served through the dangerous designation. Department of Corrections and Human Services (DCHS) estimates that this would have no impact on the average length of stay per inmate.

The bill would eliminate the early parole eligibility in the event of prison overcrowding provision 46-23-201, MCA. The early parole eligibility provision has had little impact on the prison population size since its enactment.

Good time will be granted on a basis of one (1) day for each day served at an adult correctional facility or a supervised release program facility. The provision for good time will be eliminated entirely on January 31, 1997.

The fiscal impact of this bill is related to the repeal of the good time statute, 53-30-105, MCA. The fiscal impact will be related to the length of sentences issued by the district courts. If court sentences remain consistent with today's sentences and with the elimination of good time, the average stay in prison will be extended and the prison population will grow. If court sentences take into consideration the elimination of good time, and thus are adjusted accordingly, this bill will have minimal fiscal impact on DCHS.

FISCAL IMPACT:

Expenditures:

Minimal fiscal impact during the 1997 biennium.

LONG-RANGE EFFECTS OF PROPOSED LEGISLATION:

The long-range effects of this legislation will be dependent on the sentences imposed by the district courts as described in Assumption #4 above. Again, if length of sentences imposed after January 31, 1997, is reduced to reflect the loss of good time, there should be little effect on the prison population growth. If length of sentence is not reduced, inmates who do not receive parole (37.4 % of all inmates in the last five years) will serve twice as much time in prison. It is projected that the prison population would grow by an estimated 898 inmates by fiscal year 2001. An increase in prison population of this proportion would necessitate the construction of additional prison capacity.

Dave Lewis 2-2-95

DAVE LEWIS, BUDGET DIRECTOR DATE
Office of Budget and Program Planning

WILLIAM BOHARSKI, PRIMARY SPONSOR DATE

Fiscal Note for HB0356, as introduced

HB 356

Vote: The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: REP. MC CULLOCH MOVED HB 474 DO PASS AS AMENDED.

Discussion: REP. SOFT said he hoped that the bill would make the 16 hours of training mandatory even though 40 training hours would be optional.

Vote: The motion carried unanimously, 17 - 0. (REP. MC GEE voted by proxy and REPS. SHEA and WYATT were absent.)

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 457

Motion: REP. AHNER MOVED HB 457 DO PASS.

Motion/Vote: REP. ANDERSON MOVED TO ADOPT AMENDMENTS. EXHIBIT 11
The motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: REP. TASH MOVED HB 457 DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion carried unanimously, 17 - 0. (REP. MC GEE voted by proxy and REPS. SHEA and WYATT were absent.)

{Tape: 2; Side: B}

CHAIRMAN CLARK appointed a subcommittee to look at the juvenile bills. REP. MOLNAR, Chairman, REP. KOTTEL and REP. SOFT were appointed.

HEARING ON HB 356 & HB 357

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REP. WILLIAM BOHARSKI, HD 79, combined his opening remarks for both HB 356 and HB 357. HB 356 was called the "truth-in-sentencing bill." He said there are complicated formulas for figuring out how long it is that an offender will serve in prison when sentenced for a crime as well as defining "good time" and when an inmate would start parole. The first intent in HB 356 is to eliminate the formula which was built into the statutes over the years. The "good time" formula and the classifications of dangerous and nondangerous would be eliminated. Further, a percentage of the sentence would be established before eligibility for parole would be considered. He explained the sections of the bill and presented his arguments for it.

HB 357 would set up a study commission because the rules should not be changed in the middle of the game and everyone needs to be involved in the changes. HB 357's fiscal note was smaller than it ought to be because of the cost of conducting the study. But in comparison with the costs of incarceration, the cost of a study commission to be sure implementation of new sentencing laws is done correctly has value worth considering.

Proponents' Testimony:

Rick Day, Director, Department of Corrections and Human Services (DCHS), presented his testimony on behalf of the department and the Governor in favor of HB 356 and HB 357. EXHIBITS 14 and 15 He circulated a variety of statistical reports to the committee in consideration of these bills. EXHIBITS 16 - 19

John Connor, Department of Justice, Montana County Attorneys' Association and member of Governor's Advisory Council on Corrections and Correctional Policy, spoke in support of the companion bills. He said that Judge Sherlock who was the chairman of the Governor's Advisory Council had asked that his support also be voiced to the committee. He described the current system as an "absolute mess." He said it was a classic example of how legislation becomes a mess when it is put together through a piecemeal process over a period of years. As a member of the truth-in-sentencing subcommittee, they were initially interested in just throwing out the "good time" concept and described the reasoning behind that and the reasons for changing that approach. He described the inconsistencies in the system and the process for arriving at the intent and content of the proposed legislation in HBs 356 and 357.

CHAIRMAN CLARK relinquished the chair to VICE CHAIR ANDERSON.

{Tape: 2; Side: B; Approx. Counter: 40.5}

Anita Richards, testified in support of the bills as a victim of murder and of the current system. EXHIBITS 20 and 21

Sharon Bakerson, Majority Against Child Molestation (MACeM), supported the bills. She questioned the effectiveness of the elimination of the dangerous/nondangerous categories on other bills being considered and when it would become effective and how it would be handled in the interim. She expressed worry that persons currently incarcerated would be paroled without regard to their threat to society.

Mike Salvagni, Gallatin County Attorney, rose in support of the two bills. He also served on the Governor's Advisory Council and chaired the Sex Offenders' Subcommittee. He expressed his frustration with the current system which he characterized as a "fraud." He said the designations of dangerous and nondangerous offenders was a fallacy and nothing more than a component in a formula to determine parole eligibility having nothing to do with whether or not an offender is dangerous or nondangerous. He shared examples to support his testimony. He felt these bills were the beginning of the process to restore confidence in the criminal justice system. He endorsed HB 357 as a means by which sentencing guidelines can be examined clearly by all three branches. He strongly urged support.

Craig Thomas, Executive Director, Board of Pardons, rose on behalf of the Board of Pardons in support of both bills. These bills would directly impact how the Board does business and they had significant input into the drafting of the bill. He cited his experience in the law enforcement field and with the current frustrating process of pardons. He addressed the dangerous/non-dangerous designations as being confusing and irrelevant to the actual process.

Laurie Koutnik, Executive Director, Montana Christian Coalition, gave testimony in favor of passage of HB 356 and HB 357.
EXHIBIT 22

{Tape: 3; Side: A}

Ron Richards spoke as a proponent of HBs 356 and 357. He said they will bring sentencing in line with what judges' and prosecutors' intentions are as well as what the people perceive about sentencing. He believed they would simplify the parole process. "Good time" behavior in prison should be expected and not rewarded. To make it work, he felt it would be imperative that the legislature repeal the "good time" allowance so that the bill would have continuity. He did not believe it was good to empower an administrator to grant "good time" for whatever reason he might choose which could include an attempt to reduce the prison population. He recognized that this as well as other legislation before this session would cost a significant amount of money, but he and other Montanans were prepared to pay it. He pointed out that there is no legislative oversight in corrections policy. He said that though the DCHS director is a cabinet level position, for the department to do its job, the legislature must mandate that punishment be sure, timely and consistent. He cited DCHS policy 553 as an example in support of dropping the dangerous offender categorization. He believed sentencing should reflect the severity of the crime and is the tool by which the legal system meters out punishment for crime. He said that HB 356 attempted to do this and was a common-sense approach which would work much better than the existing sentencing procedure. He felt the commission which would be established by HB 357 was imperative.

CHAIRMAN CLARK resumed the chair.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approximate counter: 8.5.}

Opponents' Testimony:

None

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

REP. ANDERSON asked how effective the "good time" system is in controlling inmates' behavior and how "bad time" would work in

increasing the sentences. He questioned how in taking away all "good time" parole administratively would work.

Mr. Day responded that the role of "good time" in the system and its effectiveness is a split decision. That was why they were advocating the sentencing commission to take another look at it. The general feeling was that "good time" had the advantage in encouraging inmates to participate in rehabilitative programs and a disadvantage might be that there are inmates who are not sincere in their participation. In eliminating "good time" those programs would continue to be needed for successful parole board completion and their incentive would be for parole eligibility rather than accumulation of "good time." Though "good time" might have merit, it was felt to be generally nonproductive in rehabilitation.

REP. ANDERSON asked how often the Parole Board meets so that the sentencing can be adjusted to reflect consequences for "bad time."

Mr. Day said that the department does not increase sentences. Under revised "good time" an inmate would be sentenced and then "good time" would be awarded on a day-for-day basis. Then the department would administer it by reducing the "good time" for disciplinary violations in the system. There is a hearing system which would provide the method for taking away the "good time." The Board meets monthly. When a prisoner becomes eligible, the Board evaluates their individual case and assesses whether they would be successful on parole.

REP. ANDERSON had been concerned that at the effective date, there would be a large number of parole hearings. He understood that the department essentially increases the sentences by taking away "good time" without a parole hearing.

Mr. Day said they actually extend the time they are in prison under their original sentence. They can't arbitrarily extend the sentence itself.

REP. ANDERSON referred to page 3, line 18 and the effective date and wondered if it would be reduced to one-fourth at the time the "good time" would be removed.

Mr. Day said they were not really reducing anything. Under the nondangerous designation, they are eligible for parole in one quarter of the sentence less "good time," which means one eighth. Under current law, if they are designated dangerous, it is one-half less "good time," which means one quarter. Actually the bill would eliminate the minimum for nondangerous offenders. The minimum for consideration is the dangerous offender time but it is in clear terms so they all know what it means; i.e., 25%. On the "good time" they did not phase that in because of the current system. Any persons currently incarcerated cannot lose anything that would be _____ (inaudible). Essentially the

department can't take away time previous statute ordered to them. In clarifying "good time" they were cleaning up the "mess" over the two year period [before the new law becomes effective] and creating a flat system which will not result in legal actions. Then "good time" would be eliminated. This would impact the prison population and they are planning for that by hoping to have new prison cells on line in the spring of 1997.

REP. TASH asked if those same parole eligibility criteria would provide the necessary incentives for prisoner involvement in programs.

Mr. Day felt it would. He would not say that it was without concern about the role of "good time" as a time-honored tradition. That was also reason for taking the time with the sentencing commission to look at the issues prior to the next session and the implementation date.

REP. MC GEE asked if serving one-fourth of a prisoner's full time was an appropriate percentage if they did not have to worry about the numbers of prisoners in the facility.

Mr. Day said he couldn't separate himself enough from law enforcement to answer it clearly and that he did not know because in some cases, 25% was advisable and in other cases parole should not ever be granted. The Board would have to make those determinations at the time.

REP. MC GEE referred to the suggested amendment to page 2 regarding victims being notified of escape or release.

Mr. Day said they do that now and would have no objection to including it in the statute.

{Tape: 3; Side: A; Approx. Counter: 20.9}

Closing by Sponsor:

REP. BOHARSKI said victim notification was covered under separate legislation already passed out of the committee. He addressed the confusion about the dangerous/nondangerous designations and the intent of this bill to clarify it. He said it was frustrating that it could not be fixed overnight, but they were on the right track and as the process progresses, it would find resolve. He urged the passage of both bills.

Motion: REP. MC GEE MOVED TO ADJOURN.

{Comments: This set of minutes is complete on three 60-minute tapes.}

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Judiciary

ROLL CALL

DATE 2/13/95

NAME	PRESENT	ABSENT	EXCUSED
Rep. Bob Clark, Chairman	✓		
Rep. Shiell Anderson, Vice Chair, Majority	✓		
Rep. Diana Wyatt, Vice Chairman, Minority	✓ <i>late 11 AM</i>	✓	
Rep. Chris Ahner	✓		
Rep. Ellen Bergman	✓		
Rep. Bill Boharski	✓		
Rep. Bill Carey	✓		
Rep. Aubyn Curtiss	✓		
Rep. Duane Grimes	✓		
Rep. Joan Hurdle	✓		
Rep. Deb Kottel	✓		
Rep. Linda McCulloch	✓		
Rep. Daniel McGee	✓		
Rep. Brad Molnar	✓		
Rep. Debbie Shea	✓ <i>late 8 AM</i>	✓	
Rep. Liz Smith	✓ <i>late 7:30</i>	✓	
Rep. Loren Soft	✓		
Rep. Bill Tash	✓		
Rep. Cliff Trexler	✓		

EXHIBIT 14
DATE 2/13/95
HB 356

February 12, 1995

Testimony HB 356
Truth in Sentencing

Hearing House Judiciary

February 13, 1995

"Truth in Sentencing" a politically popular phrase but just exactly how can we achieve it and how do we know what we have is not working. Let's take just a moment to take a look at what we have now.

Suppose a criminal offender was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Sounds simple enough and you may assume under the current law this means he or she stays 12 years at ~~Montana State~~ Prison. Not so, our system allows for good time to be applied to reduce the sentence; however, the amount the inmate earns varies widely 15 days a month if the inmate is involved in an industries program, 13 days if enrolled in school, 3 days if in self improvement and even 10 days per month in maximum security. As you can see the rate that

good time reduces time served will change almost daily.

Now where are we with our 12 year sentence. Would you believe under the present system after applying good time and considering the average inmate this would mean given a 12 year sentence the inmate would serve approximately 6 years to discharge.; but given the various good time calculations I just referred to how would anyone including the victim, judge and offender really know the minimum length of time to be served in a correctional institution.

Suppose at this point I've given you a basic idea of how to calculate good time and you feel more comfortable with the system. But hold on because we are not done yet. Actually the offender with the 12 year sentence may not serve the six years. Why, because the system also allows for parole. So let's take another look at the 12 year sentence. If sentence is 12 years we must first know if the judge imposed a dangerous designation if not then the offender is eligible for parole in three years. But not so because the statute requires that good time apply to parole eligibility which means the

offender would be eligible in 1 1/2 years.

What has this all done to our original sentence of 12 years. Essentially it is possible that a 12 year sentence could mean only 1 1/2 years in prison or less as an inmate within 2 years of parole is eligible for pre-release placement.

If I have confused you at this point, let me throw a few other points in. Actually, an offender sentenced to an longer period will be eligible for parole in 17 1/2 years and a life sentence could actually mean 15 years under the current law.

Where has all this gotten us. According to Corrections Yearbook statistics Montana's average length of sentence is 150 months which is the highest in the United States. In addition, our average time served of 44 months is the longest of the eight mountain states. However, our percentage of sentence served is below average. Consequently, Montana's criminal offenders, when compared to the performance of other states, serve a significant portion of their sentence. But given our length of sentence the public sees a system in which

the offender serves only a small percentage of the prison sentence.

I hope this example has described the problem. The Governor, the Department and the Governor's Council on Corrections and Criminal Justice believe HB 356 begins to provide solutions. If passed the bill would reform the good time system to essentially go to "bad time". An inmate would receive a flat day for day good time grant and would lose the good time only for disciplinary reasons. So up front all would know a sentence of 12 years would mean a minimum of 6 years in the institutional system. If the inmate incurred disciplinary violations the time would increase. In addition, the parole eligibility would be governed through a flat 25% which essentially equals the present dangerous designation requirement. Finally, by the end of January 1997 good time would be eliminated entirely for any offender sentenced to prison.

So if you accept this legislation after January 1997 an offender sentenced to 12 years would either serve the 12 years or at

least 3 if granted parole during the first year of eligibility and be on parole supervision for 9 years.

You might wonder what is the impact on our overcrowded system. That has been taken into consideration. This bill is a TRUTH bill not a mandatory sentencing bill. The legislation was designed to simplify sentencing so everyone could understand but do so in a way that allowed us to operate ~~under~~ within the resources requested through the Governor's executive budget. The first steps to reform good time and move to a flat percentage for parole eligibility reflect a neutral impact on populations. The step of removing good time depends largely on the sentencing patterns of Judges. If judges continue to sentence under today length of sentence then the corrections population expansion will be dramatic. If, however, judges respond to the elimination of good time and flat parole eligibility then the average length of sentence will drop and the impact on prison population will be more controlled.

89864
Gov

However, can we just predict a change in sentencing patterns

will be forthcoming, will the elimination of good time have a negative impact on rehabilitation, and do we really know what the public believes are appropriate penalties for criminal behavior. I would say no and that is why ^{Companion bill} HB 357 which establishes a SENTENCING COMMISSION is critical to the task of reforming our criminal justice system to meet public expectations and accomplish truth in sentencing .

HB 356 ³⁵⁷ represents a thoughtful approach designed by representatives of the Judiciary, public, law enforcement and the corrections system. Consequently, on behalf of the Governor and the Department I hope you will ^{Vote} do pass .

EXHIBIT 16
DATE 2/13/95
HB 3564357

TO: RICK DAY
FROM: TED CLACK *Jed*
RE: TIME SERVED ON PRISON SENTENCES
DATE: 13 FEBRUARY 1995

The following data describe the average sentence, the average time served and the average percent of sentence served by inmates released in fiscal years 1990 through 1994.

	FISCAL YEAR				
	1994	1993	1992	1991	1990
AVG. SNT. YRS	9.6	10.6	9.4	9.8	9.4
AVG. YRS. SERVED	3.65	3.79	3.37	3.52	3.22
AVG. PCT. SERVED	38	36	36	36	34

AVERAGE SENTENCE LENGTH, IN MONTHS, OF PRISON

ADMISSIONS IN EIGHT MOUNTAIN WEST STATES.

1989 - 1993.

STATE	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
ARIZONA	53.6	57.4	*	56.4	53.7
COLORADO	81.8	75.7	79.1	80.0	85.0
IDAHO	81.0	80.0	83.0	81.3	80.0
MONTANA	150.0	124.8	126.0	133.2	138.0
NEVADA	127.2	151.2	*	75.0	*
NEW MEXICO	57.0	62.0	*	60.0	43.0
UTAH	*	*	*	*	*
WYOMING	69.4	85.0	<58.0	69.5	89.0

AVERAGE RELEASE LENGTH OF STAY, IN MONTHS, OF INMATES

RELEASED FROM PRISON IN EIGHT MOUNTAIN WEST STATES.

1989 - 1993.

STATE	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
ARIZONA	26.3	27.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
COLORADO	22.0	22.0	22.0	21.0	25.0
IDAHO	39.0	41.0	40.7	42.0	41.4
MONTANA	44.4	39.7	41.0	37.1	36.9
NEVADA	23.8	22.3	*	54.0	36.0
NEW MEXICO	15.2	16.1	33.0	24.0	15.0
UTAH	26.6	28.5	17.0	25.0	24.4
WYOMING	25.4	29.0	28.2	29.5	26.0

SOURCE: CORRECTIONS YEARBOOK, CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE, INC.
and DCHS data.

DATE 2/13/93
HB 356 + 357

AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY IN MONTHS OF RELEASED PRISON INMATES:

EIGHT MOUNTAIN STATES. 1989 - 1993.

RELEASE LENGTH OF STAY IN MONTHS

STATE	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
ARIZONA	26.3	27.0	24.0	24.0	24.0
COLORADO	22.0	22.0	22.0	21.0	25.0
IDAHO	39.0	41.0	40.7	42.0	41.4
MONTANA	44.4	39.7	41.0	37.1	36.9
NEVADA	23.8	22.3	*	54.0	36.0
NEW MEXICO	15.2	16.1	33.0	24.0	16.0
UTAH	26.6	28.5	17.0	25.0	24.4
WYOMING	25.4	29.0	28.2	29.5	26.0

SOURCE: THE CORRECTIONS YEARBOOK. CRIMINAL JUSTICE INSTITUTE

* Data not available from Nevada corrections office.

EXHIBIT 17
DATE 2/13/95
HB 356 & 357

RELATIVE RANKS OF EIGHT MOUNTAIN WEST STATES:

AVERAGE SENTENCE LENGTH OF PRISON ADMISSIONS.

RANK	1993	1992	1991	1990	1989
1	MONTANA	NEVADA	MONTANA	MONTANA	MONTANA
2	NEVADA	MONTANA	IDAHO	IDAHO	WYOMING
3	COLORADO	WYOMING	COLORADO	COLORADO	COLORADO
4	IDAHO	IDAHO	WYOMING	NEVADA	IDAHO
5	WYOMING	COLORADO	*	WYOMING	ARIZONA
6	NEW MEX.	NEW MEX.	*	NEW MEX.	NEW MEX.
7	ARIZONA	ARIZONA	*	ARIZONA	*
8	*	*	*	*	*

* Data not available for some years from corrections offices in Arizona, Idaho, Nevada, New Mexico, Utah

356

MY NAME IS ANITA M. RICHARDS

MY ADDRESS IS BOX 498, SEELEY LAKE, MT. 59868

I LIVE IN SEELEY LAKE, MONTANA AND HAVE LIVED THERE FOR 32 YEARS.

I AM AM MARRIED TO DANIEL R. RICHARDS AND HAVE BEEN MARRIED TO HIM FOR 33 YEARS.

I AM THE STEP-MOTHER TO JAMES A. RICHARDS, WHO WAS SHOT AND KILLED BY HIS WIFE BECKY RICHARDS.

I MARRIED RON WHEN JIM WAS 4 YEARS OLD. JIM WAS KILLED MARCH 5, 1992 AND WOULD HAVE BEEN 34 YEARS OLD ON MARCH 26, 1992.

I AM A VICTUM OF MURDER.

MY FAMILY HAD TO SUFFER AT THE TIME OF OUR SON'S DEATH.

MY FAMILY HAD TO SUFFER DURNING THE TIME OF THE TRIAL AND THE CONVICTION OF BECKY RICHARDS, WHO WAS SENT TO THE MONTANA WOMEN'S CORRECTIONAL CENTER FOR LIFE PLUS ~~16~~ YEARS.

WHEN BECKY WAS SENTENCED TO WCC I THOUGHT, NOW WE CAN START GREIVING AND HEALING FROM JIM'S DEATH.

GUESS WHAT! WE CAN'T DO THAT, YET.

UNDER THE PRESENT CORRECTIONAL ADMINISTATION, WE AS VICTUMS DO NOT UNDERSTAND HOW "GOOD TIME" CREDITS ARE CACULATED.

WE DO NOT AGREE WITH A POLICY THAT LETS BECKY GO FROM A COLSE CLASSIFICATION TO MINNIUM-UNRESTRICTED IN 1 1/2 YEARS.

WE DO NOT AGREE TO A POLICY THAT LETS OUR GRANDCHILDREN STAY OVERNIGHT FROM FRIDAY NIGHT TO SUNDAY AT WCC.

WE HAVE HAD TO ENDURE THE RED LOBSTER, THE MICKY GAMBLE', THE 4 HOUR POOL PARTY AND MUCH, MUCH MORE.

I WANT TO PUBLICLY THANK GOVERNOR ROSKO FOR MEETING WITH MY FAMILY AND TAKING WHAT WAS THEN, AN IMMIDIATE APPROPORATE ACTION.

I WANT TO THANK RICK DAY FOR CALLING US WHEN MICKY GAMBLE MET WITH THE THREE INMATES FOR LUNCH.

I WANT TO THANK JOHN CONNOR, CANDYCE NEWBOUGHER, SALLY JOHNSON, JAN BUSHAY AND SO MANY OTHER STAFF MEMBERS, WHO HAVE SO GRACEFULLY HELPED UP PERSONALLY OR ON THE TELEPHONE.

ON YOUR HOUSE BILL 356, I WOULD LIKE YOU TO ADMEND:

SECTION 1

44-2-601

-- PAGE 2 --

I WOULD LIKE TO SEE ADDED TO THAT NOTIFICATION:

(F) PERSONS WHO ARE VICTIMS, AND WHO ARE ON FILE WITH THE
DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS SHALL BE NOTIFIED OF ESCAPE OR RELEASE.

SECTION:???

ABOLISHING THE DESIGNATION OF CRIMINALS AS DANGEROUS OR
NONDANGEROUS OFFENDEERS.

IF THE ADMINISTRATION CONTINUES TO USE THE POINT SYSTEM THAT
CLASSIFIES AN INMATE, REMOVING THIS DESIGNATION WOULD TAKE AWAY
POINTS FOR CLASSIFICATION.

I DO NOT AGREE WITH TAKING AWAY THESE POINTS.

I AM HERE TODAY ASKING YOU TO PASS HOUSE BILL 356, AS AMENDED,
THUS MAKING A BETTER TRUTH AND SENTENCING BILL.

THANK YOU....

Mr. Chairman, members of the committee:

For the record, my name is Laurie Koutnik, Executive Director of Christian Coalition of Montana, our state's largest family advocacy organization, and I rise in support of Rep. Boharski's HB 356.

Citizens across this country are tired of the increasing crime and violence we have experienced over the past several years. One of the reasons conservative candidates did well at the elections last fall was their campaign to be tough on crime. Montanans want that too. In fact, in our survey of legislative candidates before the November elections, ninety-three percent of you answered "support" to the statement "Truth in sentencing" law that defines exact length of incarceration, while four percent were undecided, and three percent did not respond to the statement at all. Republicans as well as Democrats such as Sen. Mike Halligan and former Sen. Tom Towe agreed that "truth in sentencing" was an idea whose time had come.

People are tired of seeing sentences handed down only to see the criminals back on the street without having to serve the time given them. "Early out" makes a mockery of the system. Where's the fairness to the victims and their families? Why waste the time of handing down meaningless sentences? Now days criminals can quickly calculate how much time they'll have to serve of a sentence.

I submit that prison time is designed to separate criminals from society so that they are unable to commit the crime again. Secondly, there is the matter of retribution: exacting just punishment . . . An aspect of the criminal justice system that has been long forgotten in our country. Third, there must be deterrence from a future life of crime coupled with rehabilitation when possible.

Today, about forty percent of violent offenders aren't even sent to prison. And the ones that do spend only a short time. The prison system has lost sight of the deterrent effect. While the federal prisons were made tougher in the 80's, the state prisons have loosened their systems. The federal systems have worked. In fact criminals fear the federal system. Where is that fear in the state's system?

The root cause of crime is the breakdown of the moral order of our society. While we need to address these issues that lead to crime, we must not forget to deter others by making the punishment fit the crime. Every prisoner must know that if you break the law, there will be a set time of incarceration that is non-negotiable. Judges are apt to be more consist in sentencing as well. Thirty years is thirty years. There must be consequences for actions. Let's get tough on crime. I strongly encourage you to pass HB 356.

Respectfully submitted:
Laurie Koutnik, Executive Director
Christian Coalition of Montana
2/13/95

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
VISITORS REGISTER

JUDICIARY

COMMITTEE

DATE 2.2.13.95

BILL NO. HB 356 SPONSOR(S) Rep Boharski

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

PLEASE PRINT

NAME AND ADDRESS	REPRESENTING	Support	Oppose
Mike Salvagni	Gallatin County Attorney	✓	
Angie Richards	Seeley Lake	✓	
Sharon Bakerson	MA C & M	✓	
Janet Gay	MSP	✓	
Dave Ohler	Corrections	✓	
JOHN CONNOR	MCAA Dept of Justice	✓	
RON RICHARDS	MY SELF	✓	
Craig Thomas	BOARD OF PAROONS	✓	

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED TESTIMONY WITH SECRETARY. WITNESS STATEMENT FORMS
ARE AVAILABLE IF YOU CARE TO SUBMIT WRITTEN TESTIMONY.

HR:1993

wp:visbcom.man

CS-14

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 356

Motion: REP. BOHARSKI MOVED HB 356 DO PASS.

Motion/Vote: REP. BOHARSKI MOVED TO AMEND HB 356. (Amendment 1 of EXHIBIT 3) The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: REP. MC GEE MOVED A CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT TO HB 356 AT LINE 9, SUBSECTION (F) TO INCLUDE VICTIMS.

Discussion: REP. BOHARSKI remembered from testimony on sex offender bills that sometimes it would not be prudent to notify the victim but should be left to the discretion of the prosecutor.

REP. KOTTEL addressed the same issue and REP. MC GEE clarified his amendment and at her suggestion included the victim's family in the amendment.

REP. GRIMES could not think of a situation where they would not want to notify the victim or the victim's family. If there were such a case, they could put the provision at the end of the amendment under consideration.

REP. BOHARSKI said it seemed to him that they had included in another bill that they would be notified if they had requested to be notified. It was his concern to be consistent with other legislation.

REP. GRIMES pointed out that the institution would not know who the victim was.

CHAIRMAN CLARK suggested that the sheriff notify the victim or victim's family.

Motion/Vote: REP. MC GEE MADE A SUBSTITUTE MOTION TO AMEND ACCORDING TO A CONCEPTUAL AMENDMENT TO INCLUDE THE SUGGESTIONS. (Amendment 2 of EXHIBIT 3) The motion carried unanimously.

Motion/Vote: REP. ANDERSON MOVED HB 356 DO PASS AS AMENDED. The motion carried 18 - 0. REPS. WYATT, MOLNAR, MC CULLOCH and SHEA voted by proxy. REP. SMITH was absent.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 357

Motion: REP. ANDERSON MOVED HB 357 DO PASS.

Discussion: REP. SOFT reminded the committee that there had been a suggestion at the hearing that there be a legislative oversight committee to hold the departments accountable for these activities.

REP. CURTISS remembered the comment.



HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

February 15, 1995

Page 1 of 1

Mr. Speaker: We, the committee on Judiciary report that House Bill 356 (first reading copy -- white) do pass as amended.

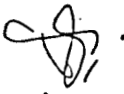
Signed: _____

Bob Clark
Bob Clark, Chair

And, that such amendments read:

1. Page 1, line 29.
Following: "shall"
Insert: ", within 72 hours,"
2. Page 2, line 2.
Following: "release"
Strike: " ; "
Insert: ". The sheriff or other officials shall notify the victim or victims of the offense or the immediate family of a deceased victim, if known."

-END-


Committee Vote:

Yes 18, No 0.

391507SC.Hbk

Amendments to House Bill No. 356
First Reading Copy

For the Committee on the Judiciary

Prepared by John MacMaster
February 15, 1995

1. Page 1, line 29.

Following: "shall"

Insert: ", within 72 hours,"

2. Page 2, line 2.

Following: "release"

Strike: ";

Insert: ". The sheriff or other officials shall notify the
victim or victims of the offense or the immediate family of
a deceased victim, if known."

purchase the Jaws of Life equipment, and also to maintain that equipment, which was very expensive. He recounted a story about the U.S. Army. In years past, they dealt with their drinking and drug problems by ending the career of any person convicted of a DUI. He said it cleaned up the problem very quickly. Because of the "hammer," he said many people who might have taken the chance stopped taking that chance. Those people became responsible individuals in dealing with alcohol. He hoped this bill would bring the same results. He told the committee that the tragedy occurring in the Flathead last year involving the Campbells' daughter might have been averted if the perpetrator, who was a repeat offender, had been dealt with before.

{Tape: 1; Side: B; Approx. Counter: .00, Comments: poor recording}

HEARING ON HB 356 and HB 357

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REPRESENTATIVE WILLIAM BOHARSKI, House District 79 from the Flathead Valley, introduced HB 356 and HB 357 which had been worked on by everyone in the country, he said. He thanked the Department of Corrections and Human Services for their assistance on the technical work. Basically, these bills would change the rules of the game. The judges, prosecutors, victims and all of society do not know what it means when a judge sentences a person to a prison term. He said legislators (including himself) and society were responsible. He said it had been a mistake in the past to put the money spent on the prison system on the table as a negotiating tool when it came time to balance the budget. He also guessed that public awareness brought a willingness to spend additional money on the problem. On HB 356, he said, language had been removed from the bill. Anywhere a reference to Title 53-30-105 was used, it referred to "good time," which the bill was eliminating at the beginning of the 1997 biennium. At present, they did not have the prison capacity to deal with it, but he hoped for construction. Page 2 amended the innocuous section on how consecutive sentences were served. The House Judiciary put some amendments on how much time the department had to notify folks at the local level, and the intent of the locals for notifying victims. Section 4, Line 23, changed the language from 1/2 to 1/4, appearing as though it reduced the prison time, but, by eliminating good time, it ends up being the same thing. In addition, they eliminated the "dangerous" and "non-dangerous" offender statutes. They were not reducing sentences for anyone in this bill. He discussed the argument for taking away good time, but said it was a powerful tool for the department to use. The sponsor briefly explained each section of the bill. He said they were changing how the concept of good time worked. If left to him, he would eliminate it tomorrow, he said. Because of the money required for prison space, it would take a good number of years for the resolution of the problem. REPRESENTATIVE BOHARSKI said in light of that problem, the Department of Corrections and Human Services had requested HB 357. He said

judges were jacking up sentences to make sure individuals served at least a minimal amount of time. If they change the rules with the elimination of the good time provisions, they would certainly have a wreck on their hands with the state prison system. Judges currently sentenced people to 40 years, hoping they would serve one or two or five. If they change the rules, a sentence would be for 40 years when they really only wanted them to serve for ten. REPRESENTATIVE BOHARSKI stated that the fiscal note on the bill was far too low. He projected the amount to be upwards of \$100,000 to \$150,000 range. The money would be discussed when HB 2 made its way through the system. He said they must take a look at: 1) what the judges and prosecutors are doing to deal with current sentencing guidelines, and 2) perhaps some of the sentences in statute need to be changed because the top end of the sentences had been increased in many cases. Title 45 statute and what really goes on in the prisons were very interdependent upon each other, he stated.

Proponents' Testimony:

Rick Day, Director, Department of Corrections and Human Services, read written testimony. (EXHIBIT 3)

John Connor, Bureau Chief, County Prosecutor Services Bureau, Department of Justice, represented the Governor's Advisory Council on Corrections and Correction Policy and the Truth In Sentencing Sub-Committee, also the Attorney General's office whose Law Enforcement Advisory Council who supported this measure. He added that the Montana County Attorneys Association supported both measures as well. He said REPRESENTATIVE BOHARSKI's depiction of the issue was correct in that it was an absolute mess which none of the prosecutors can understand. It made it difficult or impossible to explain the ramifications of a particular sentence to a victim, and also made it impossible for judges to tell the individual how much time they would be sentenced to. He said it was very frustrating for the people in the criminal justice system to address this system. Judge Lympus, during the Sub-committee hearings for the Truth in Sentencing Council, suggested that they do away with "good time" altogether. He said they could not do that because there were no sentencing incentives provided without "good time" to the defendant in looking at potential rehabilitation. "Good time" was also used by the prison officials as an effective management tool. They set up a "good time" study group, which ended up as HB 356. While it may not be actual, "truth in sentencing," he said it was more truth than they had now, and they saw the need to approach it on a more gradual basis. The most significant example to them in terms of confusion is found in Section 46-23-201 which allows for the designation of dangerous or non-dangerous offenders. Those terms are misnomers, he said, because people who commit acts of violence and who are dangerous can be designated non-dangerous. People who are potentially not dangerous, because of their history, can be designated dangerous. More accurately, they should be described as, "repeat," or

"persistent," offenders. The statute says that a dangerous designation would require one-half of the time before parole eligibility, and if designated non-dangerous, one-fourth of the time must be served. It talks about, "less good time received," but says in any event, if a person got a sentence for a period of years, the parole would become eligible in 17 and 1/2 years. If a person commits a homicide, for example, and gets a 100-year sentence, that person is parole eligible in 17 and 1/2 years. If another person got a sentence of 50 years, he, too, would become eligible in 17 and 1/2 years. Explaining that to victims, he said, was a travesty, and justifiably so. He said the most arguments prosecutors had with the Department of Corrections were over the bill passed in the last legislature which allowed the Department to grant discretionary "good time" toward parole eligibility without any restrictions. Prison overcrowding became a reason for those decisions and the prosecutors objected to it. He said they finally came to agreement that the "good time" provisions need to be phased out gradually, which was proposed. The fiscal note points out that the population of the prison may increase and present some substantial financial problems if the courts do not take into account these changes in the law after 1997. Based on his experience, the courts would take it into consideration. This bill is not a perfect system, he said, but he didn't know what a perfect system would be with the confusion in the law. He stated that HB 357 was also a good start. In answer to why do they need HB 356 if they were going to do the study under HB 357, he said the two bills are not inconsistent. There are problems that HB 356 addresses that need to be fixed now. If the study is done, they may make some recommendations to retain some of the existing law. HB 357 gives them the opportunity for a more detailed, long-range approach. He encouraged support of the bills.

Mike Salvagni, Gallatin County Attorney, also a member of the Governor's Advisory Council on Corrections; Chairman, Subcommittee dealing with Sex Offenders, spoke in favor of the bills. He said the bills considered by the committee on lifetime supervision of sex offenders and DNA testing were part of his committee. He praised Rick Day and Governor Racicot who had led the way in responding to public outcry concerning the criminal justice system, in addition to REPRESENTATIVE BOHARSKI. Mr. Connor had characterized the present criminal system as a, "mess," he said, but he thought it was a fraud. The manner in which prison time and parole eligibility was determined is a fraud, he maintained. He supported the revision in HB 356 concerning parole eligibility. He focused on the dangerous and non-dangers designation system. He said they were nothing more than a component in a formula to determine a date for parole eligibility of an inmate. The passage of HB 356 and the establishment of these truth-in-sentencing requirements are a beginning of the attempt to restore and maintain confidence in the criminal justice system. He cited the Larry Moore/Brad Brisbin murder case, in which Moore was convicted of shooting Brisbin and disposing of the body (the first case in Montana in

which DNA testing was used for conviction). Moore was designated as a non-dangerous offender. He said to explain that to Mrs. Brisbin, the mother of the victim, and the family, was a complicated situation they couldn't understand, nor could the public. The removal of these designations for the purposes of determining parole would not only clarify the system, but would remove the negative perceptions of the public. He argued that the current system was an insult to the public and the victims and a contradiction of the murderous behavior of some cases. A judge could still restrict the eligibility date if he thought that the particular defendant required more time, which was current law. He stated that we need to do better. We need truth-in-sentencing. Mr. Salvagni also supported HB 357 because there was so much more to do, and the information was not available.

Laurie Koutenik, representing the Montana Christian Coalition, supported both HB 356 and HB 357. Her organization had surveyed the candidates in the last election. One of the questions was about truth-in-sentencing because they had been hearing from the public of their desire for harsher sentences, tougher crime bills and accountability. 100 per cent of the respondents, regardless of party designation, supported the concept of truth-in-sentencing. She asked the committee to hear the concerns of the public when criminals are released back into their communities in what they consider to be an unreasonable amount of time.

Dennis Paxinos, Yellowstone County Attorney, said he was not as enthusiastic as Mr. Salvagni, but would rise to support the bills. Yellowstone County would register between 900 and 1,000 felonies in the current year, he said. The next largest county would be Missoula, with perhaps 450 cases last year, and Cascade County filed 400. He spent a good deal of time with victims, he said. It was difficult to speak to survivors of homicides, explaining why the death penalty would not be imposed, mostly because there were few criteria in Montana under which it would ever be imposed. There must be a kidnapping or the murder of a uniformed officer, for example. In explaining the sentence probability, it was like a labyrinth, he said, with dangerous designation, weapon additions, good time, and other variables. This bill would help them, he maintained. In the past, the state had balanced the budgets on the backs of the victims over and over again. These bills would make elected officials responsible. If passed, the public could hold the judge responsible for sentences, making the judge a better judge. It would also make the prosecutors more responsible with the knowledge of the time expected in the sentence. Everyone would know what the playing field was and what the rules were. He lacked enthusiasm somewhat because he felt the bills did not go far enough. He urged support.

Kathy McGowan, appeared on behalf of the Montana Sheriffs and Peace Officers Association. She said the Board of Directors wholeheartedly supported both HB 356 and HB 357.

Craig Thomas, Executive Director of the State Board of Pardons, said they were responsible for executive clemency, supervised release and parole in the State of Montana. He spoke in favor of the bills. He had worked in the field of corrections as a correctional officer, probation officer and counselor for 16 years. During that period, the major complaint he'd heard was the victim's misunderstanding of the sentencing impositions and time served. The second area was the dangerous and non-dangerous designations, which made people extremely angry when a sex offender was declared non-dangerous and a check forger called dangerous. He urged the passage of HB 356 and HB 357.

Ron Richards, represented himself as a victim, citizen and taxpayer. He supported the measures because it was a common-sense approach to a problem that was long overdue. For each of the 1,200 inmates in Montana, there were between 1 to 20 victims each. He stated that the citizenry knew it would cost money and were willing to pay more to obtain a just system that served all.

Opponent's Testimony: None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

SENATOR REINY JABS asked for clarification of "good time." REPRESENTATIVE BOHARSKI explained that the elimination of good time would be delayed for two years because of the overcrowded situation at the prison now. Under current law, good time is mandatory. Upon passage and approval of the bill, good time becomes, "may". He had some discussion with the department about someone who had currently earned good time and he inquired if it could be taken away. Under the rules and disposition of the department, they said it could not, but he thought there was a strong possibility that it could. Then, in January, 1997, good time would be eliminated altogether. SENATOR BARTLETT asked Director Day about the function of good time as a management tool. Mr. Day said there was a split-decision in the corrections system over the subject of good time. Some think it was an effective tool, others felt that it encouraged inmates to participate in programs to give the impression that they were rehabilitating just to earn the good time. There is no conclusive evidence. After good time is eliminated, if the inmate has the ability to get out earlier under parole, then the Board of Pardons would require their participation in rehab programs. They had been asked to look at good time provisions, and they would have adequate time to come back to the next legislature for revision, if required. He felt it had been fairly considered in a fairly thoughtful direction. SENATOR BARTLETT asked if an effective date of April, 1997, would be a more accommodating date regarding the legislative session if there was further recommendation to maintain good time or considerations made. Director Day said the council went through the same discussion and the date was a compromise. If the

legislature would decide to re-impose good time, they could make it applicable and he did not think reducing the sentence would be illegal. He said the system could still function.

SENATOR BARTLETT asked for further information. She supported the bill, but was interested in the department's best estimates of not only these bills, but ALL the changes proposed in this session that will affect our corrections system. He agreed. SENATOR SHARON ESTRADA asked Mr. Thomas for an estimate of how many people were paroled last year. Mr. Thomas said the Parole Board releases approximately 350 people a year into adult supervision. In response to a further question, he said there were 1,355 prisoners now. There was not a quota system, he said.

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Closing by Sponsor:

REPRESENTATIVE BOHARSKI stated that before he compiled this bill he read an NRA crime report which stated that 80 per cent of the prisoners had a possibility of getting 20 per cent shorter time-served amounts if they did good time. He stated that he had voted in this session to spend four times the amount of money than in all the sessions he'd been there. Legislators are responsible to the public to explain that they just cannot build 1,000 new prison cells in the next 6 months. It's impossible. This bill would be a step in the right direction, though. It is not a panacea to solve all the problems. This bill would make the judges more accountable, and it would eliminate some of the negotiations prosecutors engage in with defense attorneys, making the presentation to the judge much cleaner.

HEARING ON HB 84

Opening Statement by Sponsor:

REPRESENTATIVE ROBERT STORY, House District 24, Stillwater County and the Southern and Eastern portion of Sweetgrass County, sponsored HB 84. It is a simple bill, he said, allowing the people assigned to the Department of Corrections and Human Services to transfer people suffering from a mental disease or defect to the State Hospital or the State Prison, for example.

Proponents' Testimony:

Dan Anderson, Administrator, Mental Health Division, Department of Corrections and Human Services, read and presented written testimony. (EXHIBIT 4) He also presented written testimony from Carl L. Keener, M.D., Medical Director, Montana State Hospital, who was unable to be present. (EXHIBIT 5)

Opponents' Testimony:

None.

Questions From Committee Members and Responses:

SENATOR BRUCE CRIPPEN asked about current law. Mr. Anderson said the issue was unclear. The law talks about placing a person in the appropriate institution but was not very explicit as to whether it referred to a mental health institution or a correctional institution. To his knowledge, every person had ended up at the state hospital, where they've stayed. In some cases, either it was a poor evaluation to begin with, or they've recovered enough of their mental health so that they should not be in that kind of facility. SENATOR CRIPPEN asked if they were moved, were they moved after hearing the recommendations of the professionals treating them? Mr. Anderson said yes, they had done that, but they had to go to the court to get the authority. SENATOR CRIPPEN said the court never loses its jurisdiction over a person. What if there was an objection to the removal, and what would be the proper form? Mr. Anderson said either the director or the defendant may petition the sentencing court for a review of the sentence. CHAIRMAN HOLDEN asked about the number of the bill (low), and if there was a hang-up in the chain? The sponsor said the bill went into the House Judiciary Committee the first week of the session and came out the last. They were very thorough in their examination and they did amend it. He thought they just had bigger fish to fry. SENATOR JABS asked for clarification on Line 22, and if it meant that a person would be committed under Section 1, that they could only be treated for that amount of time? Mr. Anderson said it was correct, they were under time sentences. If at the end of that sentence they are still considered to be mentally ill, they could go into a civil commitment to keep them at the hospital.

Closing by Sponsor:

REPRESENTATIVE STORY said it was a simple bill to put the rules into statute to prevent the department from getting into a bind. It was determined that SENATOR JABS would carry the bill in the Senate, should it pass this committee.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 84

Motion: SENATOR CRIPPEN MOVED THAT HB 84 BE CONCURRED IN.

Motion/Vote: The MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY on an oral vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 356

Motion: SENATOR ESTRADA MOVED THAT HB 356 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion: Valencia Lane asked the Department of Corrections to provide reviews and summaries that would include estimates of these bills and all related bills that have passed both houses at this point for total costs. It would be provided to the committee members before they schedule to finish hearing all the bills. SENATOR STEVE DOHERTY said the fiscal note estimated 898 additional inmates in the prison by fiscal year 2001. He wanted to know how many people would be added during the interim and what the estimated costs would be. He supported the bill, but worried about the impact in five or six years and wanted to know the whole story on the fiscal note. SENATOR CRIPPEN agreed that the legislation would be costly, and that even the presentation on the floor should include this financial implication, should the bill pass committee. His constituents were in concurrence with the fiscal impact.

Vote: The MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY on an oral vote.

EXECUTIVE ACTION ON HB 357

Motion: SENATOR ESTRADA MOVED THAT HB 357 BE CONCURRED IN.

Discussion: SENATOR CRIPPEN questioned Director Day if some of the provision of HB 356 were included in HB 357 to be studied. Mr. Day said it was correct. CHAIRMAN CRIPPEN further asked if there was the possibility if what they had enacted in HB 357 will be modified or rejected? Director Day said that was correct. Part of the concept of HB 357 was to provide for an opportunity to gather information on various impacts of the bill and provide it to the next session. SENATOR CRIPPEN asked if the commission met once a quarter and if they had enough time in the biennium to bring it back to the next legislature? Mr. Day said the commission would have to go right to work. SENATOR CRIPPEN asked if they would use other sources, including the legislative council. He said it was a big, big, big undertaking. The fiscal note was too low, he said, but the time element concerned him the most. Mr. Day said some research with other states had already been done. He agreed that they would begin immediately upon approval and passage of the bill. SENATOR JABS asked if the changes would be approved by the next legislative session, and not made by the commission? SENATOR CRIPPEN said it would be decided by the 55th legislative session. SENATOR LINDA NELSON stated that the fiscal note was appallingly low. Since it is going into statute, it bothered her that it was that inaccurate. SENATOR ESTRADA said the sponsor acknowledged it was low. CHAIRMAN HOLDEN asked about his intention in the presentation of the bill to the taxation committee. Mr. Day said their initial fiscal note was \$180,000, and they were working on it yet. He said the sponsor asked for the higher amount. SENATOR CRIPPEN asked for an updated supplemental fiscal note requested by the sponsor.

DATE _____

3/14/95

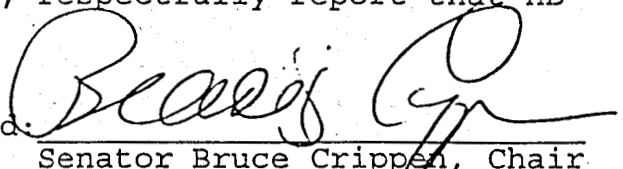
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SENATE STANDING COMMITTEE REPORT

Page 1 of 1
March 14, 1995

MR. PRESIDENT:

We, your committee on Judiciary having had under consideration HB 356 (third reading copy -- blue), respectfully report that HB 356 be concurred in.

Signed: 

Senator Bruce Crippen, Chair

 Amd. Coord.

Sec. of Senate

SEN. ESTRADA
Senator Carrying Bill

591250SC.SRF

Testimony HB 356 and 357
Truth in Sentencing
Sentencing Commission
Hearing House Judiciary.
February 13, 1995
Senate Judiciary

March 14, 1995

"Truth in Sentencing" a politically popular phrase but just exactly how can we achieve it and how do we know what we have is not working. Let's take just a moment to take a look at what we have now.

Suppose a criminal offender was sentenced to 12 years in prison. Sounds simple enough and you may assume under the current law this means he or she stays 12 years at Montana State Prison. Not so, our system allows for good time to be applied to reduce the sentence; however, the amount the inmate earns varies widely- 15 days a month if the inmate is involved in an industries program, 13 days if enrolled in school, 3 days if in self improvement and even 10 days per month in maximum security. As you can see the rate that good time reduces time served will change almost daily.

Now where are we with our 12 year sentence. Would you believe under the present system after applying good time and considering the average inmate this would mean given a 12 year sentence the inmate would serve approximately 6 years to discharge.; but given the various good time calculations I just referred to how would anyone including the victim, judge and offender really know the minimum length of time to be served in a correctional institution.

Suppose at this point I've given you a basic idea of how to calculate good time and you feel more comfortable with the system. But hold on because we are not done yet. Actually the offender with the 12 year sentence may not serve the six years.

Why, because the system also allows for parole. So let's take another look at the 12 year sentence. If the sentence is 12 years we must first know if the judge imposed a dangerous designation if not then the offender is eligible for parole in three years. But not so because the statute requires that good time apply to parole eligibility which means the offender would be eligible in 1 1/2 years.

What has this all done to our original sentence of 12 years. Essentially it is possible that a 12 year sentence could mean only 1 1/2 years in prison or less as an inmate within 2 years of parole is eligible for pre-release placement.

If I have confused you at this point, let me throw a few other points in. Actually, an offender sentenced to an longer period will be eligible for parole in 17 1/2 years and a life sentence could actually mean 15 years under the current law.

Where has all this gotten us. According to Corrections Yearbook statistics Montana's average length of sentence is 150 months which is the highest in the United States. In addition, our average time served of 44 months is the longest of the eight mountain states. However, our percentage of sentence served is below average. Consequently, Montana's criminal offenders, when compared to the performance of other states, serve a significant portion of their sentence. But given our length of sentence the public sees a system in which the offender serves only a small percentage of the prison sentence.

I hope this example has described the problem. The Governor, the Department and the Governor's Council on Corrections and Criminal Justice believe HB 356 begins to provide solutions. If passed the bill would reform the good time system to essentially go to "bad time". An inmate would receive a flat day for day good time grant and would lose the good time only for disciplinary reasons. So up front all would know a sentence of 12 years

would mean a minimum of 6 years in the institutional system. If the inmate incurred disciplinary violations the time would increase. In addition, the parole eligibility would be governed through a flat 25% which essentially equals the present dangerous designation requirement. Finally, by the end of January 1997 good time would be eliminated entirely for any offender sentenced to prison.

So if you accept this legislation after January 1997 an offender sentenced to 12 years would either serve the 12 years or at least 3 if granted parole during the first year of eligibility and be on parole supervision for 9 years.

You might wonder what is the impact on our overcrowded system. That has been taken into consideration. This bill is a TRUTH bill not a mandatory sentencing bill. The legislation was designed to simplify sentencing so everyone could understand but do so in a way that allowed us to operate under within the resources requested through the Governor's executive budget. The first steps to reform good time and move to a flat percentage for parole eligibility reflect a neutral impact on populations. The step of removing good time depends largely on the sentencing patterns of Judges. If judges continue to sentence under today's length of sentence then the corrections population expansion will be dramatic. If, however, judges respond to the elimination of good time and flat parole eligibility then the average length of sentence will drop and the impact on prison population will be more controlled.

However, can we just predict a change in sentencing patterns will be forthcoming, will the elimination of good time have a negative impact on rehabilitation, and do we really know what the public believes are appropriate penalties for criminal behavior. I would say no and that is why HB 357 which establishes a SENTENCING COMMISSION is critical to the task of reforming our criminal justice system to meet public expectations

and accomplish truth in sentencing .

Crime, punishment and public expectations are all important topics to our own personal safety, how we invest limited resources and the kind of society we create for our children. I believe we would all agree that in order to be effective our criminal justice system must be firm, fair and decisive. Criminal offenders must be held accountable a some must be separated from society for life. But the hard part is how to achieve this goal while continuing to recognize the individual freedom, circumstance, and choices involved in human behavior.

To make our discussion even more challenging let me put forth a few examples:

If if were to describe a criminal offense which invovled deliberate stalking and a premeditated viscious murder I'm guessing this committee will have alot of common ground regarding the appropriate penalty.

However, if I described a criminal offense which included an unemployed alcoholic, from an abusive family who out of negligence in a vehicle or in a bar fight caused the death of an innocent victim the picture may not be so clear.

If I described a offender who is 19 but has committed two previous burglaries or an offender who has 3 childern and a drug habit and is found guilty of felony theft again the answers may not be so clear.

All these criminal acts are wrong and deserve firm and fair punishment from society; but as well, each involves a myraid of individual circumstances that may need to be considered before we pass judgment.

EXHIBIT

3

DATE

3-14-95

1 HB 356, 357

This may seem as a long way around to get to HB 357; but in all the rhetoric about crime have we really taken the time to ask those we serve to help develop the appropriate penalties. Have we taken the time to ensure those we serve have the information necessary to make informed decisions about something as important and costly as crime and punishment.

HB 357 establishes a sentencing commission whose task is to involve the public at the community level in these important decisions. As we reshape government and work to respond more effectively to the public isn't it time we quit guessing and established a process to really ask and then build a system to respond to those wishes.

HB 356 & 357 provide that opportunity for a thoughtful approach to give guidance to judges, evaluate good time, consider correctional resources to improve public safety and the restoration of victims of crime. Consequently, on behalf of the Governor and the Department I hope you will vote do pass on HB 356 & 357.

DATE 3-14-95

SENATE COMMITTEE ON

Judiciary

BILLS BEING HEARD TODAY: HB 84, HB 256, HB 345

HB 356, HB 357

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PLEASE PRINT

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Check One

Name	Representing	Bill No.	Support	Oppose
Brenda Nordlund	DOJ	HB256	X	
John Mercier	HD 74	HB256	X	
John P. Campbell	Polson	HB256	X	
John Connor	MT County Atty's Assn Dept of Justice	HB356 HB357		
JAMES A. LOFTUS	MT FOR DIST ASSN	HB256	X	
NORINE DEAN BOLES	DPHS	HB256	X	
W James Kembel	City of Billings	HB ³⁴⁵ 256	✓	
Kathy McGowan	CDPM, MSPOA	HB256	✓	
" "	MSPOA	356 357	✓	
Mike Salvaggio	Gallatin County Attorney	356 357	✓	
Don Richards	self	356 357	✓	
Ray Thomas	Bradford Park	356-357	✓	
Jaket Cox	MSR	356 & 357	✓	
Dennis Baxinas	Williston Co	356, 357 345	✓	

VISITOR REGISTER

PLEASE LEAVE PREPARED STATEMENT WITH COMMITTEE SECRETARY